

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b> <i>On</i>	
	10/615,463	VARNUM ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Marc Jimenez	3726	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 7/6/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3 and 4.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 07 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)                                 |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br><del>Paper No./Mail Date _____</del> |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment   |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                        |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

*Marc Jimenez*  
 Marc Jimenez  
 AU 3726  
 8/12/04

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jack C. Munro on 8/12/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

#### **In the claims:**

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): [The method as defined in Claim 2 wherein after said pulling step there is the additional step of] A method of installing an inflating tube in a tire comprising the steps of: utilizing a tire rim having an annular tire mounting cavity and a valve stem mounting hole; utilizing a valve stem puller which has a length of chain which is connected at one end to a ring and at an opposite end to an externally threaded plug; installing a threaded nut on said chain; inserting said length of chain through said valve stem mounting hole; inserting a tire bead of a first sidewall of a tire casing in conjunction with said tire mounting cavity; screwing said plug into a valve stem on said tube; installing said tube within said tire connecting with said tire mounting cavity; pulling on said chain until said valve stem is mounted in said valve stem mounting hole with said chain, plug and ring all located exteriorly of said tire rim; threadably attaching said nut onto said valve stem; inserting a tire bead of a second sidewall of

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said tire casing in conjunction with said tire mounting cavity; and disconnecting said plug from said valve stem.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): [The method as defined in Claim 1 wherein said first inserting step includes] A method of installing an inflating tube in a tire comprising the steps of:  
utilizing a tire rim having an annular tire mounting cavity and a valve stem mounting hole;  
utilizing a valve stem puller which has a length of chain which is connected at one end to a ring  
and at an opposite end to an externally threaded plug; installing a threaded nut on said chain;  
inserting said length of chain through said valve stem mounting hole by installing said threaded  
plug through said ring; inserting a tire bead of a first sidewall of a tire casing in conjunction with  
said tire mounting cavity; screwing said plug into a valve stem on said tube; installing said tube  
within said tire connecting with said tire mounting cavity; pulling on said chain until said valve  
stem is mounted in said valve stem mounting hole with said chain, plug, and ring all located  
exteriorly of said tire rim; inserting a tire bead of a second sidewall of said tire casing in  
conjunction with said tire mounting cavity; and disconnecting said plug from said valve stem.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not teach or suggest a method of installing an inflatable tube (56) in a tire (10) including utilizing a valve stem puller (32) with a chain (34) connected at one end to a ring (40) and at an opposite end to an externally threaded plug (48), installing a threaded nut (38) on the chain, and threadably attaching the nut onto the valve stem (54), in combination with all of the other limitations of claim 4.

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Furthermore, the prior art does not teach or suggest a method of installing an inflatable tube in a tire including utilizing a valve stem puller with a chain connected at one end to a ring and at an opposite end to an externally threaded plug, and inserting the length of chain through the valve stem mounting hole by installing the threaded plug (48) through the ring (40), in combination with all of the other limitations of claim 4.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Contact Information***

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marc Jimenez whose telephone number is (703) 306-5965. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday between 5:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on (703) 308-1789. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

  
Marc Jimenez  
Patent Examiner  
AU 3726

**MJ**  
August 16, 2004